

MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

Success Stories from the Field

Integrated Metal Products Inc.

Florida Manufacturing Extension Partnership

Integrated Metal Products Unifies with Help from Florida MEP

Client Profile:

Integrated Metal Products, Inc. is a manufacturing service center providing metal products, machining, water-jet and laser cutting, welding, fabrication, and manufacturing services to the defense, energy production, mining and other industries. Founded in 2001, the company employs 55 people at its facility in Lakeland, Florida.

Situation:

Integrated Metal Products wanted to consolidate their four facilities into one large plant to improve their efficiencies and expand their operations. "We felt that with the consolidation and the new plant floor layout the timing was perfect to reorganize and implement operational and work flow improvements," stated Wayne Albritton, Integrated Metal Products' President and CEO. The company quickly realized that they did not have the resources to internally train their workforce and maintain their business operation at the same time. They chose to use the services of the Florida Manufacturing Extension Partnership (Florida MEP), a NIST MEP network affiliate, to train their employees and then coach them through the implementation process.

Solution:

Florida MEP staff demonstrated how Value Stream Mapping (VSM) is an important tool in managing product and information flow. After the VSM training, company employees were able to design a well-organized plant layout. In addition, Florida MEP provided 5S (Sort, Set in Order, Shine, Standardized, Sustain) training which enabled employees to use their creativity to design, plan, implement and maintain company operations. With the help of Florida MEP in every department, the company has increased productivity, improved delivery, and increased sales.

Results:

- * Increased sales by \$9 million.
- * Increased productivity by 25 percent.
- * Improved delivery by 33 percent.
- * Achieved a more competitive and profitable position.

Testimonial:

"The training provided by the Florida MEP team has positioned us very well to face the current economic challenges in 2009."

Wayne Albritton, President/CEO